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BRIGHTLINGSEA
URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
for 1960





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BRIGHTLINGSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for 1960

Chairman:

Cr. R. FRENCH.

Vice-Chairman:

Cr. R. V. Crook, J.P.

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Chairman: Cr. R. B. WHITE.

Cr. R. V. Crook, J. P.

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Cr. Miss J. Culling.

Cr. R. French.

R. D. PEARCE, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lon), D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health to the Urban Districts of
Brightlingsea, Clacton, Frinton and Walton, and Rural
District of Tendring and Assistant County Medical Officer.

J. COLVIN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspector
Surveyor
Meat and Food Inspector
Water Engineer.

Telephone No: -
Brightlingsea 326.

Town Hall,
Brightlingsea,
Colchester,
Essex.

April, 1961.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the state of Public Health in the Urban District of Brightlingsea for 1960.

The health of the community has remained at very high level, the majority of the inhabitants living to a ripe old age.

Notifications of infectious diseases numbered seven, all of which were in respect of whooping cough. No other cases of infectious diseases were notified, and this could well be a record for the town.

In some parts of the country cases of diphtheria have occurred and this has led many parents, who had not sought diphtheria immunisation for their children, to take advantage of the facilities offered by their family physicians and the County Council's clinic in the district. The immunisation clinics have been well attended. B.C.G. vaccination was offered to certain age groups, of older children during the autumn, and the response to this was very encouraging.

The comments on the vital statistics will appear separately in order to expedite production of the report.

In conclusion, in view of the fact that this will be my last Annual Report to this Council I would like to thank each and every member for the kind co-operation and friendliness I have experienced during my five years as your Medical Officer of Health. It is not without a certain amount of regret that I shall take my departure.

To Mr. Colvin, your Surveyor and Public Health Inspector, I express my sincere thanks for his excellent work, not only this year, but in each of the previous years it has been my privilege to work with him.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Yours sincerely,
R. D. PEARCE,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF BRIGHTLINGSEA 1960

Area in acres	...	...	2,852
Populations:			
1960 Registrar General's Estimate			4,700
1951 Census	...		4,502
Density of population per acre	...		1.6
Rateable value	...	...	£ 47,674
Sum represented by a penny rate	...		£ 198
Number of inhabited dwellings (approx)	...		1,827
Total live births	...	...	61
Birth rate crude	...	...	12.9
Birth rate corrected	...	...	15.2
Birth rate (England and Wales)	...	...	17.1
Total live and still births	...		61
Total still births	...	...	-
Still birth rate	...	...	-
Still birth rate (England and Wales)	...		19.7
Total deaths	...	...	59
Death rate crude	...	...	12.5
Death rate corrected	...	...	8.7
Death rate (England and Wales)	...		11.5
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	...		2
Infant mortality rate	...	...	32.7
Infant mortality rate (England and Wales)	...		21.7
Infant mortality rate - legitimate	...		33.8
Infant mortality rate - illegitimate	...		-
Neo-natal mortality rate	...	...	32.7
Early Neo-natal mortality rate	...	...	16.3
Perinatal mortality rate	...	...	16.3
Number of illegitimate births	...		2
Percentage of total births	...		3.2
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...		-
Maternal deaths(including abortion)	...		-
Maternal mortality rate	...	...	-
Cancer deaths	...	...	8
Tuberculosis deaths	...	...	-

VITAL STATISTICS

Population:

The Registrar General 's estimate of the mid-year population has increased by ten.

Live Births:

The number of births is one more than in 1959 and the corrected birth rate is lower than that for England and Wales for 1960.

Still Births:

There were no still births in 1960.

Deaths:

The corrected death rate is slightly higher than the previous year. There were two deaths of infants under one year.

LIVE BIRTHS

Male

34

Female

27

Total: 61.

The principal causes of, and various ages at, death are given in the following tables:-

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1960

Cause of death	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis ...	-	-	-
Cancer (all sites) ...	4	4	8
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	6	11
Coronary artery disease	7	2	9
Hypertension with heart disease	-	2	2
Other heart disease ...	6	7	13
Other circulatory disease	3	1	4
Pneumonia ...	1	1	2
Bronchitis ...	2	-	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	-	1	1
Congenital malformations	2	-	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	1	3
Other accidents ...	1	-	1
	<hr/> 34	<hr/> 25	<hr/> 59

DEATH AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1960

Under 1 year	2
1 and under 5 years	1
45 and under 55 years	1
55 and under 65 years	8
65 and under 75 years	14
75 and under 85 years	24
85 and over	9
	<hr/> 59

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following figures show the number of infectious diseases which were notified in the district during 1960:-

Disease	Cases Notified	Cases to Hospital	Cases at Home	Cases Confirmed	Deaths
Whooping Cough	7	--	7	7	-

TUBERCULOSIS 1960

There was one new case of Tuberculosis notified as occurring in the district.

TOTAL CASES OF REGISTER AT END OF 1960 = 29

The age groups of the cases on the register are as follow:-

Age Groups in Years	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M	F	M	F	
1 - 5	-	1	-	-	1
15 - 25	3	1	1	2	7
25 - 35	4	1	1	-	6
35 - 45	2	1	-	1	4
45 - 55	5	-	1	-	6
55 - 65	2	1	-	-	3
65 - 75	1	-	1	-	2
Totals:	17	5	4	3	29

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES

The Council's Water Undertaking functioned satisfactorily during the year and with the exception of one day no curtailment of supply took place.

On the day mentioned a mechanical failure of the 18" submersible pump coincided with the repair work to the asphalt of the elevated water tank. For a period of some hours until the submersible pump was lifted, repaired and replaced the situation was very critical. Prior to this event, in times of emergency, the Church Road Well has been capable of supplying the town under restricted basis.

As a result of increased demand, this position no longer exists and the need for a public supply from the main of the adjoining authority has become more imperative every day.

Mains renewal work, possibly the first in the history of the Undertaking, was carried out in Station Road where frequent failures of the steel main has been experienced. Minor extensions were also completed in Cinque Port Road and Sandwich Road in connection with estate development.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

After some delay arising from the inception of the Clean Rivers Act, the Council's Consulting Engineers are now actively engaged in bringing the scheme forward for the improvement of the sewers and the reconstruction of the Sewerage Works.

Surcharging continues to take place at various critical points in the town and the operation of the existing sewerage works has been difficult in view of the large flows from time to time through the treatment plant.

RIVER AND STREAM POLLUTION

No new effluent discharges in the river and streams were permitted during the year.

Samples of the treated effluent have been taken by the River Board from time to time.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

The following is a synopsis of the principal work carried out by the Public Health Inspector during 1960:-

Inspections (Public Health and Housing Acts)	309
Other inspections	1,546
Informal Notices complied with	40
Statutory Notices served	6
Statutory Notices complied with	6
Number of Premises at which Nuisances were abated	9

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE PRINCIPAL IMPROVEMENTS OBTAINED:- *

HOUSES

Dirty	-
Verminous	2
Damp	10
Defective pointing of external walls	3
Defective roofs	7
Defective plaster of walls and ceilings	15
Defective floors	3
Defective window frames	Nil
Want of ventilation	Nil
Defective doorsteps	1
Defective doors and door frames	9
Want of defective skirting boards	Nil
Water supply cut off or insufficient	20
Miscellaneous	Nil

DRAINAGE

Want of drainage	Nil
Defective drainage	12
Stopped drains	24
Defective sink, waste pipe etc.	Nil
Other defects	Nil

CLOSETS

Structure defective	Nil
Fittings defective	Nil
Want of water supply to closet cistern	3
Broken closet pedestals and pans	2
Defective flushing apparatus	Nil

PAVING

Yards, passages or paths defective	6
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OTHER NUISANCES

Accumulations	1
Other outside defects	--

DUSTBINS

Defective or insufficient	6
---------------------------	---

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Number of infested houses:	
(a) Council Houses	--
(b) Other Houses	--
(c) Caravans	--
Number of houses disinfected	
(a) Council Houses	--
(b) Other Houses	--
(c) Caravans	--

VERMIN, MOTH, ETC.

Rooms fumigated	2
Houses fumigated	--
Caravans	--

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Premises registered	--
Inspections at premises	--

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Inspections have been made from time to time and action to enforce compliance with the Act has been taken where necessary.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1951.

There are no manufacturers of Rag Flock within the Urban District.

BATHING POOL

Whilst satisfactory bacteriological samples were obtained during 1960, the Western Promenade Bathing Pool falls considerably short of modern standards and consideration has been given during the year to the question of reconstruction.

Plans are to be prepared for a scheme of reconstruction in stages, the work to be carried out during the winter of each year.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING GROUNDS

The Local Authority operates the only Caravan Site in the area, but demand for sites will eventually exceed the resources of the Local Authority.

Improvements continue to be made on the existing site, including additional sanitary accommodation, water points and fire fighting equipment.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949.

Visits by Public Health Inspector	140
Visits by the Rodent Operator	120

HOUSING

New houses and flats erected during 1959

	Number of Houses
Private Enterprise	16
Council Houses	18
Council Flats	-
	<hr/>
	34
	<hr/>

FOOD

The following list shows the number of visits paid to premises at which food for human consumption is sold or prepared:-

Cafes and Restaurants	12
School Canteen	-
Butchers' Shops	10
Fish Friers	8
Wet Fish Shops	8

MILK SUPPLY

The milk supply for the Urban District is obtained from dairy companies in the area.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949.

There are nine registered distributors supplying milk in the district of whom six have premises within the area.

Dealer's Licences Pasteurised Milk	6
Supplementary Licences Pasteurised Milk	1
Dealer's Licences Tuberculin Tested Milk	4
Supplementary Licences Tuberculin Tested Milk	1
Dealer's Licences Sterilised Milk	5

Producers and Producer-retailers are the concern of the Ministry of Agriculture.

ICE CREAM

The total number of persons registered to sell ice cream is fifteen. No ice cream is sold in the district except as pre-wrapped from reputable sources. All samples of ice cream examined were Grade I.

BAKEHOUSES

There are four bakehouses in the Urban District, but there are no underground bakehouses. Four inspections were made during the year.

SHELLFISH

During 1960, 1,041,436 oysters were passed through the purification tanks at Brightlingsea. No unsatisfactory results were obtained from bacteriological examinations.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Public Cleansing continues to be carried out satisfactorily in the area, but the need for an additional summer tip is now becoming apparant.

Every effort is being made to operate in accordance with the Ministry of Health Regulations and any complaints of nuisance are immediately attended to.

Street gullies are emptied mechanically three times per year.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Reg- ister (2)	Number of		Occupiers prosecuted (5)
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	15	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	24	17	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	14	-	-
Totals:	31	56	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
(1)	(2)	(3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness(S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2).....	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)....	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective....	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.....	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)....	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	2	2	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT
SECTIONS 110 and 111

Section 110				Section 111
Nature of work (1)	Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)
Wearing Apparel, Making etc.	-	-	-	-